

5TH ANNUAL

HISTORY TRAIN

Featuring the Golden Age of Trains & Sesquicentennial of the Civil War's end



Our lounge car, Royal Street, is at the end of the train



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington Cemetery

**10 Days, September 4 - 13, 2015
From \$3993***

- **Unique rail journey itinerary** • **Private restored train cars from 1950s** • **Fine dining** • **Premium beverages and snacks** • **Sleeping accommodations** • **Chicago** • **Washington D.C.** • **Appomattox Court House** • **Richmond** • **Yorktown** • **Jamestown** • **Bull Run/Manassas** • **Arlington National Cemetery**

ALL ABOARD for our 5th annual private rail journey. Join our history-themed tour as we travel east to Washington D.C. and historic sites, including guided sightseeing at museums and battlefields. Travel with us this fall and celebrate the golden age of trains on private restored train cars from the 1950s.

Itinerary

Day 1, Friday: St. Louis-Central Illinois-Chicago

Our private train is scheduled to depart St. Louis at 5:30 P.M. Boarding stations en route to Chicago are Springfield, Lincoln and Bloomington-Normal.

Day 2, Saturday: Chicago-En Route East

Today's Chicago sightseeing takes us to the Pilsen neighborhood rich with Hispanic and Mexican culture. See outdoor murals, which were created as a cooperative effort between Slavs and Mexicans when the neighborhood was undergoing change. We'll also visit the National Museum of Mexican Art.

Next, visit some Chicago buildings that were frequented by those accustomed to private rail travel. Marshall Field and Company, the first department store in the Midwest

Now "Macy's on State Street," Marshall Field's has the largest Tiffany favrile ceiling





The World War II Memorial on the National Mall

was renowned for its magnificent interior featuring the great clocks, atrium fountains and a breathtaking Tiffany glass dome. This “marble palace” covers an entire city block and rises 13 stories. We’ll have time here for lunch on your own. Next we head to the “Peoples Palace,” now known as the Chicago Cultural Center. Completed in 1897 at a cost of nearly \$2 million, it is adorned with sumptuous materials including rare imported marble, fine hardwood, polished brass, mosaics and stained-glass domes. Enjoy a stop at Millennium Park and see “The Bean,” Crown Fountain, or wander through the Lurie Gardens. We will also make stops at The Willis Tower and the French Market so that you can continue sightseeing or shopping on your own if you desire or return to Union Station. The Capitol Limited departs Chicago at 6:40 P.M. (B, D)

Day 3, Sunday: Arrival-Washington D.C.

Our scheduled arrival in Washington D.C. is 1:10 p.m. Enjoy the free afternoon in our nation’s capital. After dinner on your own we embark on an included night illumination tour of the monuments. Washington D.C. is one of the most beautiful cities in the world when lit up at night. We’ll see all the spectacular sights and picturesque views the city offers. (B, L)

Day 4, Monday: Washington D.C.-Bull Run-Arlington-Richmond VA

Today our guide, Tim Kelly, takes us on a tour to the Civil War’s first battlefield, Bull Run which is known as Manassas to the Confederacy. Then we continue to the Iwo Jima Memorial dedicated to the Marines in 1954 by President Eisenhower. Optional box lunches may be pre-ordered to enjoy in the adjacent picnic area. Arlington National Cemetery, the second largest military cemetery in the country, is our last stop today. We will see John F. Kennedy’s grave site with the eternal flame and the Tomb of the Unknowns (also known as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier), where we will watch the emotional changing of the guard. The Tomb is a monument dedicated to American service members whose remains are unidentified. We will also see the newly renovated



Arlington House, which sits on the hill at the top of Arlington National Cemetery. Formerly it was the home of Robert E. Lee and also has ties to George Washington. This evening our private train departs Washington D.C. at 7:05 P.M. and arrives at the Richmond Staples Mill Road station at 9:18 P.M. (B, D)

Day 5, Tuesday: Richmond-Virginia Southern Neck Peninsula

Today our guide, Dr Bruce Venter, takes us back to Colonial America. As we drive to the peninsula, first visiting Jamestown give us the background about the first permanent English settlement in the Americas established in 1607. We will visit the Jamestown Victory Center Museum and battlefield.

Then fast forward to 1781, the final chapter of the Revolutionary War, as we head to Yorktown. Here the British fortified the port while waiting for reinforcements by sea. A French fleet blocked the British resupply giving Washington and our French allies the opportunity to defeat Cornwallis’ army. The USA was independent. (B, D)



Yorktown Victory Monument



The Stone Bridge at Bull Run

Day 6, Wednesday: Richmond Battlefield-Tredegar Iron Works

Our guide today is the retired Army Chief of Military History, Jack Mountcastle, who now teaches Civil War history courses at the University of Richmond and lectures at the Virginia Historical Society. We begin our day at the Richmond National Battlefield Park Visitor Center at Tredegar Iron Works. Tredegar Iron Works was once the most important industrial site in the entire Confederacy. We also visit the American Civil War Center, where you

will learn about the Civil War from Union, Confederate and African American perspectives. Our next visit is to the Gaines' Mill battlefield, also known as the First Battle of Cold Harbor or the Battle of Chickahominy River. The largest of the Seven Days' Battles took place at Gaines' Mill and played a significant role in shaping the course of the American Civil War. We will stop for lunch on your own then continue our Richmond battlefields driving tour of the Seven Days' Battles sites: Savage's Station, White Oak Swamp, Glendale and Malvern Hill. At Malvern Hill a gentle walk takes us to the Union gun line and defensive positions. En route back to our rail cars Jack will talk about life in the city during the Civil War. (B, D)

Day 7, Thursday: Richmond-Appomattox Court House

Again today, Jack Mountcastle will be our guide. As we depart the train station we follow Lee's Retreat Route. Jack will talk about the Petersburg siege and Lee's attempt to join J.E. Johnston's army. Our first stop today is Sailor's Creek Battlefield Visitors Center. More than 7,700 men were killed, wounded or captured here; this was the last major engagement of war in Virginia. Lee surrendered three days later. We also visit the Hillsman House which served as a hospital for both Confederate and Union troops and later as a hospital after the battles. After lunch on your own we visit the new Museum of the Confederacy—Appomattox. This museum opened in 2012 showcasing artifacts, photographs and documents from two exhibits that tell the stories of the Civil War. Our last stop is the Appomattox Court House and McLean House, where Lee surrendered on Palm Sunday, April 9, 1865. En route back to Richmond Jack will discuss post-war changes in Virginia. (B, D)

Day 8, Friday: Washington D.C.

Our private train departs Richmond at 6:00 A.M. with an arrival in Washington D.C. at 8:15 A.M. You have most of the day to explore Washington D.C. on your own or join us on an optional tour.

Our guide, Tim Kelly, will take those interested on a tour along Embassy Row, home to over 170 foreign embassies. We will visit the National Cathedral, the sixth-largest Gothic cathedral in the world with beautiful stained glass windows, spectacular wood and stone architecture and sculptures. Upon arrival at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, we will have time for lunch on your own before our tour. The Basilica is the largest Roman Catholic church in the United States and North America, and is one of the ten largest churches in the world. It is a place of worship, pilgrimage, evangelism and reconciliation. This exquisite church is the church the Pope visits when in Washington D.C. Return to the station by 3:00 P.M. for our departure on the Capitol Limited at 4:05 P.M. (B, D)

Day 9, Saturday: Arrival-Chicago

Our scheduled arrival back to Chicago is 8:45 A.M. You can spend the day exploring Chicago on your own or join our optional tour.

Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond



Our comprehensive tour of Chicago through the Architecture Foundation includes the Loop, Hyde Park, Gold



Appomattox Court House saw the last battle of the Army of Northern Virginia and Lee's surrender of to Grant

Coast, the Lake Front, two university campuses, parks and residential neighborhoods. In the loop we will have a few interior tours at some of the following stops: Mies van der Rohe's IIT campus, Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House and on the Museum Campus. We will also stop to see the Rookery, Chicago Board of Trade, Campus of the Illinois Institute of Technology, Crown Hall, Tribune Campus Center and finally on Solidarity Drive for the most classic view of the skyline. Lunch is on your own today. We end our tour at the Roosevelt train yard where our rail cars are parked.

Our evening meal will be Chicago-style pizza. (B, D)

Day 10, Sunday: Chicago-Central Illinois-St. Louis

Our private train departs Chicago this morning at 9:45 A.M. for Central Illinois stations, ending in St. Louis. (B)

What's Included: • Rail transportation and sleeping berth • Premium snacks and beverages • Motor coach touring • Guided sightseeing • Admission tickets • Tips to driver and local guides • Tour led by Joe Luka • 17 Meals: 9 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch and 7 Dinners

Accommodations: (9) number of nights

Private Train Car (2) Sleeping Berth, Chicago station

Private Train Car (2) Sleeping Berth, en route

Private Train Car (1) Sleeping Berth, Washington D.C. Union Station

Private Train Car (4) Sleeping Berth, Richmond Staples Mill Road Station

What's Not Included: • Travel insurance from Travel Guard deluxe group program • Discount for paying balance by cash or check \$50 • Optional tours on Day 8 & 9 • Tips at end of trip to be divided among the crew \$150

*Prices are per person (pp), \$3993 is based on double occupancy of a double bedroom (with private facilities). Single roomette (facilities under bed at night) costs \$4393. Call for the cost of a triple room. Quad room (2 double bedrooms without wall partition) costs \$3993/person. Documents required: Government-issued photo ID. Insurance: Travel Guard Deluxe group plan costs 6.5% of total tour cost with details of coverage shown at www.tourgroupplanners.com/faq. Dates, features and itinerary are subject to change. Special accommodations: En-suite bedroom \$7460/person based on double occupancy (2 bedrooms opened up with 2 lower beds & private facilities); Dome bedroom \$8560/person based on double occupancy (queen bed, private facilities & shower); Single bedroom (with separate facilities) \$7515/person. Acct. 150904A 22MAR15 2102

Join us from Bloomington, Chicago, Lincoln, St. Louis & Springfield or call for a quote from other cities.

Tour Coordinator is Judy McElfresh, judy@TourGroupPlanners.com; call 217-422-5002 to charge your credit card for the \$900/person deposit including travel insurance. Or mail check (made out to Atlas Travel) to **Tour Group Planners**, 363 S Main St Ste 175, Decatur IL 62523

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Above left, **Royal Street** (1950) lounge car owned by the Louisville & Nashville. Middle left: **Southern Hospitality** (1955) Dome/Bar/Lounge Car was originally built for the Union Pacific. Upper right interior photo of **Pacific Union**, a 1950 Budd-built stainless steel classic sleeper that operated with the Union Pacific. *All pictures of accommodations on this page are of double bedrooms.*

A private rail car tour is like having your hotel on the rails, or a cruise ...a fine restaurant with a five star chef and an ever-changing view ...a swank night club to enjoy friendship & fellowship with other passengers and of course ...room to move around and your own personal window to view America as we traverse this great country of ours.



Note on baggage: because of limited space in accommodations, we strongly request that each traveler limit their luggage to two carry-on bags, the larger with total dimensions (length + width + height) of 46" and the other 36". No dressy occasions are contemplated.

For a travel experience you will never forget, step away from the crowds at the airports... enjoy a little slower pace, travel at "see" level and witness America.



Tour Staff

Tour Group Planners Tour Leader: Joe Luka
American Rail Excursions Trainmaster: Roger Verbeeren

Guides

Our guide in Washington DC, Arlington & Bull Run/Manassas is Tim Kelly.

An Expert Tour Guide licensed by the City of Washington D.C. is also a Certified Tour Ambassador for the Journey Through the Hollow Ground. His 8 years of experience in Washington D.C. and the surrounding area has giving him the opportunity to meet thousands of visitors from across the U.S. and the world. His goals are always to inform, educate, inspire, and entertain people about the great capital city of Washington D.C. and all it's glory, nuances, and history. He is also a National Park Service Park Member at the Manassas Park Battlefield.



Our Civil War guide in Richmond & Appomattox, John W. Mountcastle,

Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Retired). Jack was born and raised in Richmond, VA. Graduating from the Virginia Military Institute in 1965, he began serving as an Army officer in 1966. During his Army career, he commanded tank units at all levels from platoon through armored brigade. He served twice in Vietnam and spent a total of ten years in Germany during the Cold War. During the 1970s, Jack earned an MA and PhD from Duke University and taught Military History at West Point. Promoted to Brigadier General in 1994, he assumed the duties of the Army Chief of Military History in Washington, D.C. Jack returned to Richmond upon retiring from the Army in 1998. Currently, he teaches Civil War history courses at the University of Richmond and lectures at the Virginia Historical Society.



Our Colonial America guide is Dr. Bruce M. Venter,

president of America's History, LLC, a tour and conference company where he leads Colonial and Revolutionary War tours. This company is best known for its annual conference on the American Revolution. He is also known for his character portrayals of General John Burgoyne and Charles Earl Cornwallis. His most recent book, *The Battle of Hubbardton: The Rear Guard Action that Saved America* will be published in March 2015 by The History Press. Venter has published articles in *Patriots of the American Revolution*, *Blue and Gray*, *Civil War* and the *Washington Times*. His forthcoming book, *Kill Jeff Davis: Union Raid on Richmond* will be published by the University of Oklahoma Press this fall. Venter holds a B.A. in history from Manhattan College, and a doctorate in educational administration from the University at Albany. He lives in Goochland County, Virginia with his wife, Lynne and their beagle, "Sally Seddon."



US Marine Corps War Memorial features the flag raising at Iwo Jima



The British at Yorktown surrendered October 19, 1781 and was the last major battle of the American Revolution



Tell your friends how to find this tour on the web: www.WILLtours.com

Details about our Vintage Train Cars

The **Pacific Union** is a 1950 Budd built stainless steel classic 10-6 sleeper that operated on Union Pacific's Chicago to the west coast "City" trains. Prior to entering into "private car" service in 1996, it underwent a heavy mechanical overhaul.

2 IN A SLEEPER Pacific Union's 6 **double bedrooms** provide guests with a large sofa, table and a private annex (washroom with a toilet, sink and mirror) or a small sofa, comfortable lounge chair, comfortable sleeping accommodations with two beds, one upper and one lower.

Another feature is that all six of Pacific Union's bedrooms are ensuitable in which the room divider walls may be folded down to form one larger room (suite) accommodating up to four guests.

1 IN A SLEEPER Pacific Union also features 10 roomettes. **Roomettes are smaller bedrooms for single occupancy.** Roomettes feature a small couch, overhead luggage rack, closet for hanging garments, fold down sink, illuminated oversize wall mirror, door mirror and in-room toilet. By night, this space-thrifty room converts into a bedroom with the bed folding out of the wall. A general bathroom is located across the hall from the shower. Stereo tape player provides the entertainment. Pacific Union is self-sufficient in every way.

Some additional functional modifications include:

- Electric baseboard heat throughout the car with individual thermostats for each room
- Air conditioning with individual room controls
- A newly constructed full-size stainless steel shower with changing area

Southern Hospitality (interior below), 1955, is a Dome/Bar/Lounge Car with seating for 24 in the dome, 24 below and with a deluxe master suite.



City of Angels (above) is the former New York Central's Laurel Stream with 6 double bedrooms, buffet and lounge built by Budd Co. in 1949.

Sleeping Accommodations

Double Bedroom



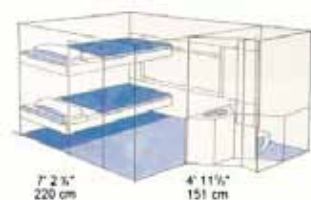
Two double bedrooms may be converted to a quad bedroom by removing the partition and used for a party of 3 or 4 people.

Double bedroom with upper and lower twin berths.

En-Suite bedroom with 2 lower twin berths is 2 double bedrooms with partition removed.

Triple bedrooms cost more because it is actually a Quad bedroom with an unused berth.

Quad bedroom is actually 2 Double bedrooms with the partition removed.



By night, the upper berth is lowered and the couch (or chairs, used by day) converts to a lower berth. Each bedroom has a small room for facilities (sink and toilet accessible day and night), facilities door opens into the bedroom. There is also a door on the bedroom.

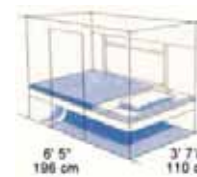
Roomette



In addition to the seat(s) or couch in your compartment, there is seating in the lounge car (which is at the back of the train).

Single roomette for one person is available.

Single occupancy of a double bedroom is at a higher cost.



By day, your roomette has a seat, toilet and sink. There is a door on the roomette. By night, the berth takes up the whole roomette. To use the toilet during the night, you must lift the berth or go down the hall (each car has a toilet).

Diagram and pictures are for a general indication. Accommodations vary in configuration. While completely refurbished and modern features added, a key goal of the restoration is to maintain the 1950s look and feel.

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Booking form: To reserve your place,
please fill in & return to Tour Group Planners

WILL History Train September 4-13, 2015

Full Name as on ID (including Middle name/initial if any)

Nickname

Gender

Birthdate for
Insurance

Exact Name as on
ID Verified, for
office use

1 _____

M

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Today

_____/_____/_____

2 _____

M

F

_____/_____/_____

Address _____

City St Zip _____

Phone _____

Cell _____

E-Mail *optional* _____

Balance of tour payment due May 4, 2015.
Confirmation & statement will be sent after the receipt
of this booking form. Name must match ID.

Credit Card # _____

Expires _____/_____/_____

Cash

Check: *made out to Atlas Travel*

Security Code _____

\$900/person deposit due, Payment enclosed \$ _____

I want to board the train at (circle): St. Louis / Springfield / Lincoln / Bloomington / Chicago
or Other: _____

Occupancy 1 2 3 4 I want to share a room; with _____

Accommodation: (per person, pp) Double Bedroom for 2 or 4 persons \$3993 pp Roomette for 1 person \$4393

En-suite bedroom with 2 lower beds \$7460 pp Dome Bedroom \$8560 pp Single bedroom for 1 \$7515

Book the following optional tours: Washington DC, Day 8, \$40 pp Chicago tour, Day 9, \$40 pp

Emergency Contact _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Send to:

Thank you!

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